

## DETAILED ITINERARY

### Transylvania extension

**Day 1.** After we drop any participants who do not participate in this extension at Bucharest airport we will continue to Sinaia mountain resort in the Carpathian Mountains just a two hours drive away. Night in Sinaia.

**Day 2.** We will have some optional pre-breakfast birding around the accommodation, which is situated 1400m high in the mountains, surrounded by lovely beech and pine woodland and has a splendid view over the Prahova valley. Birds like Water Pipit, Red-breasted Flycatcher, Goldcrest, Firecrest, Crested Tit, Nutcracker, Ring Ouzel and Common Crossbills are all possible here. After a hearty breakfast we will catch a cable car and discover the Bucegi Natural Park alpine zone, over 2000 m high where our main target will be the 'balcanica' race of the Shore Lark and Alpine Accentor. After a few hours birding on the roof of Transylvania we will continue our journey towards the Hargita Mountain. Our next birding destinations will be along the Homorod Valley looking for Lesser Spotted Eagle, Corncrake, Great Grey Shrike, before we will reach our accommodation in Deság. Night at Deság.

**Day 3-4.** In these two full days we shall discover the wonderful Hargita and Górgény Mountains in search of Capercaillie, Hazel Grouse, Ural Owl and Eurasian Three-toed Woodpecker. One day we will travel to the magnificent Bicz Gorge in the Harghita Mountains National Park, an impressive site with tall limestone walls. This is the realm of the Wallcreeper and we should have great looks of this special bird with a spectacular view of the gorge as well. In May the males are very active, defending their territories against others and offering good chance to see them in flight as well! We will also look for Brown Bears on one or possible two afternoons depending on our success. This time of the year we have very good chances to see this fascinating creature of the Transylvanian pine woodlands! Night at Deság.

**Day 5.** After the breakfast we leave Deság and Transylvania behind and drive back to Bucharest to catch your flights back to your home country.



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